

# SPORTS LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS



## SMC Volleyball Perfect in League

Gaels Defeat Santa Clara; San Francisco

By Caitlin Graveson

Volleyball in the West Coast Conference (WCC) is a roller coaster ride of competition. The level of play is so elevated that on any given day, any team has a chance to win. Last year the conference sent five teams to the NCAA post season tournament, the highest percentage of any other conference in the nation. This year three teams are receiving votes in the national polls.

Saint Mary's women's volleyball has managed to avoid the drops on this ride thus far. The Gael's remain perfect in WCC play, 4-0, and are climbing the national polls. The team is currently ranked #29 in the CSTV/AVCA Coaches poll. The Gaels are 12-3 overall with their only losses coming from #7 Stanford and two from #15 California.

Saint Mary's greatest strength is the fact that every player has the ability to rise to the occasion and lead the team. Head coach Rob Browning said, "We have a lot of weapons and on any given night, two or three girls can win it for us."

Saint Mary's returned all four of its players who garnered WCC honors last year; first team: senior middle blocker Megan Burton, junior setter Kapua Kamana'o, junior middle blocker Shannon Lowell; all freshman: Chanteal Satele. Outside hitter Megan York, 2007-2008 co-freshman of the year, is also continuing to make an impact.

In addition to their returning players, the Gael's have added two key freshman, outside hitter Lauren Corp and setter Missy White. Corp is leading the team in kills for the



Kapua Kamana'o (14)

Photo Tod Fierner

season and White is second in assists.

Last week Saint Mary's knocked off Bay Area rivals Santa Clara University and the University of San Francisco. The Broncos (10-6, 01) proved a challenge for Saint Mary's as the Gael's needed five sets to secure the win in their match-up on Thursday, October

8th. Senior outside hitter Lauren Jaeckel stepped up for the Gaels. Jaeckel led the team in 17 kills on the evening, three of which came in succession at a key moment in the final set giving the Gaels the lead.

The University of San Francisco was no match for Saint Mary's on Saturday, October 10th. The Gaels defeated the Dons in a sweep at their Dig Pink fundraiser. Saint Mary's recorded 66 digs in the match and raised over \$2,500 for the Sideout foundation. Many fans came from the surrounding community to support the cause by sporting pink. Browning said, "It's such a great event—everyone has been affected somehow by breast cancer or knows someone directly or indirectly...the nice thing about this event is that it gets people out to a match that they don't normally get to because they want to support the campaign against breast cancer."

Saint Mary's travels to take on #24-ranked University of San Diego (11-4, 3-1) on Saturday, October 17th.



Head coach Rob Browning

Photo Tod Fierner



Lauren Corp (above) recorded 12 digs against San Francisco Photo Tod Fierner



For up to date schedules see: [www.smcgaels.com](http://www.smcgaels.com)

Fri, Oct 16 WSOC San Diego Saint Mary's Stadium 3:00 PM  
 Sun, Oct 18 WSOC Santa Clara Saint Mary's Stadium 1:00 PM  
 Sun, Oct 25 MSOC Santa Clara Saint Mary's Stadium 2:00 PM  
 Thu, Oct 29 VB Loyola Marymount McKeon Pavilion 7:00 PM  
 Sat, Nov 7 WSOC Loyola Marymount Saint Mary's Stadium 1:00 PM  
 Sat, Nov 7 VB Santa Clara at Santa Clara, CA 7:00 PM  
 Fri, Nov 13 MSOC San Diego Moraga, CA 2:00 PM  
 Fri, Nov 13 WBB Idaho State McKeon Pavilion 6:00 PM  
 Fri, Nov 13 MBB New Mexico State McKeon Pavilion TBA

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## From Dream to Team

SMC Waterski and Wakeboard Team Hosts Tournament

By Mikaela Cowles



Brian Detrick

Photo provided

The Saint Mary's Waterski and Wakeboard team was created from nothing, but the team's small beginnings are proving to be no indication of where they are headed.

Turning down multiple waterskiing scholarship offers, Brian Detrick enrolled in Saint Mary's in 2007 for the academic rigors. However, he has still managed to hold on to his dream of competing at the collegiate level. With a lot of hard work in the spring of 2008, Detrick became the founder and captain of the Saint Mary's Waterski and Wakeboard team.

Detrick has been successful at his sport since he got on the water. Detrick first competed at the age of four and by 1998 was ranked first in the U.S. Under-9 Boys 1 Slalom in the United States. In the 2009 Collegiate National All Stars, Detrick ranked sixth over all.

Slalom is a water skiing event similar to downhill skiing in which competitors must navigate a course

weaving in and out of buoys.

His slalom skiing reached a new level on September 11, 2009 when he competed in the Diablo Shores ProAM Waterski Tournament in Brentwood, CA. Taking "39 off," Detrick competed with 36 foot rope and scored an impressive one and half bouys at 36 MPH. This score qualifies Detrick as a Men's Open Division skier, raising him to the professional level.

The first Saint Mary's team Detrick put together was made up of three members. In one year it grew to 14. In a competition that is based on points, lacking team members makes success difficult. The team placed in the top five in all their tournaments but failed to qualify for Nationals. Now with 25 men and women, the team has Nationals in its sight. Detrick said, "The goal is to win. I know with us being a new team with lots of beginners it's tough, but we have been

taking on the challenge and been competitive with teams that have been around for over 20 years or so."

Adding her skills to the girl's line up is graduate student Kelly Bay. Having competed one year at Chico State University, Bay brings an added level of talent and experience to the water. Despite Bay's experience, the Gaels are primarily made up of members like freshman Gary Mancini, who has just begun skiing competitively. Detrick said Mancini's "a natural and a huge asset for the team."

On October 10th and 11th the Gaels hosted the Western Regional Collegiate Waterski Championships at Shortline Lake, in Elk Grove. This was the Gaels' first time hosting a tournament, which brought top skiers from the Western Region to compete in Slalom, Trick and Jump skiing. Thirteen teams competed in the event; the Gaels finished in 7th place.



Brian Detrick

Photo provided



Scott Westerhof

Photo provided

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